

To-day's Advertisements.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THE Ven. Archdeacon WOLFE will give an Address on MISSION WORK IN FOOCHEW in St. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, TOMORROW (SUNDAY), the 23rd instant, at 11 A.M.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1897. [847]

ZETLAND LODGE.

No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on TUESDAY, the 24th June, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1897. [849]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI, VIA AMOY.
The Company's Steamship

"HECTOR,"
Captain Barr, will be despatched as above TOMORROW, the 23rd instant, at Daylight.
For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1897. [846]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.
The Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU,"
Captain Inner, will be despatched TOMORROW, the 23rd instant, at 4 P.M.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engine, a Refrigerating Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.

A daily qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light. Return Tickets issued by this Company in and from AUSTRALIA are available for return by Steamers of the EASTERN and AUSTRALIAN S. S. Co. and vice versa.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1897. [776]

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR LONDON,
VIA STRAITS AND USUAL PORTS OF CALL.

(Taking Cargo at through rates for GLASGOW, LIVERPOOL, CONTINENTAL PORTS, RIVER PLATE, &c.)
The Company's Steamship

"KINTUCK,"
C. de La Perrelle, Commandeur, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 24th instant, at Noon.
For Freight, &c., apply to
HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1897. [741]

"RICKMERS" REGULAR LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR BREMEN AND HAMBURG.
The Company's Steamship

"KORUHEA RICKMERS,"
Captain Muller, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 26th June.
For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 22nd May, 1897. [848]

NOW READY!

COMMERCIAL AND STATISTICAL PAPER.

No. 1—APRIL, 1897.

Being reports of meetings of Companies and Corporations for periods ending 31st December, 1896.

This pamphlet is published for the convenience of the Commercial Community and is for sale, PRICE 1/6 PER COPY.

at the office of the
"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,"
No. 6 Piddar's Hill.
Hongkong, 7th May, 1897. [761]

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & COMPANY,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.
SODA WATER.
LEMONADE.
GINGER ALE.
SARSAPARILLA.
RASPBERRY VADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a daily qualified English Chemist and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures.
Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, RESTAURANTS and other Large Consumers.
Any complaints should be addressed to the Manager.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1897. [3792]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the Manager, Hongkong Telegraph, and not to the Editor.
Letters or Editorial notices to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

While the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the free discussion of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.
Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than Three o'clock so as to reach the printer before publication of the paper.
Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until discontinued.

The Hongkong Telegraph has the largest circulation of any English newspaper published in the Far East, and in therefore the best medium for Advertisers. Terms on terms on application. The Hongkong Telegraph is published at the Telegraph Press, No. 1, Piddar's Hill, Hongkong.

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS

AERATED WATERS.

OUR AERATED WATER FACTORY is fitted with the best English Machinery, embodying the latest improvements in the trade.

The Purest Ingredients only are used, and the utmost Care and Cleanliness exercised in the Manufacture throughout.

The Water used is proved by repeated Analyses to be Absolutely Pure.

For COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG." And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:—

PURE AERATED WATER.
SODA WATER.
LEMONADE.
FRESH WATER.
SALT WATER.
LITHIA WATER.
SARSAPARILLA WATER.
Tonic WATER.
GINGER ALE.
GINGERADE.

No Credit given for Bottles that look dirty or grasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Waters, as such Bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1897.

BIRTHS.
On 20th April, at Charles Rectory-place, Woolwich, wife of CHARLES T. W. HIRSH, M.R.C.S. (Eng.) District Medical Officer, Colonial Medical Service, F.R.C.S., of a daughter.

April 19th, at St. George's place, S.W., wife of FREDERICK DAVID SASSOON, of a daughter.
On the 12th instant, at "Bon Accord," Penang, the wife of REGINALD A. LAW, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

April 20th, at St. George's Cathedral, Edinburgh, WILLIAM KIRK DICKSON, Advocate, Edinburgh, elder son of the late William Dickson, of Marwick, Midlothian, to KATHLEEN, eldest daughter of Major-General Sir Robert Murdoch Smith, K.C.M.G., late Royal Engineer.

April 20th, at St. Luke's Kensington, JOHN LEIGH SMITH, M.A., eldest son of the late Rev. John Smith, of Histon, rectory of Wragby, Lincolnshire, to PATIENCE CARLYLE, only daughter of R. L. Henderson, of Ceylon.

DEATH.
On Easter Sunday, at Sydney, N. S. W., after a long and painful illness, MARIE, youngest sister of J. S. Northcote, Hongkong, aged 24 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1897.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The following cutting, taken from the London & China Express of the 23rd ult., will doubtless come as a surprise to our readers, as it did to us:—

The Manufacturer (Philadelphia) states that attention has been called to the great success attending the Technical Museum in Hongkong, which, about a year ago, was established by Technological Institutions. Beginning in a small way it has been gradually extended and has become very popular with the Chinese, 82,000 of whom visited it during the last year. The Chinese cannot be convinced or enlightened by circulars or pictures, and hold fast to the belief that the Celestials are vastly superior to the Western barbarians. But when they see, as in this Hongkong Museum, the wonderful achievements of electrical machines, little models of railroads in full operation, and other technical appliances, then they become interested, susceptible to conviction, and willing to have the thing introduced in their country or their houses.

We should much like to know who the "Technische schau" missionaries are and where their "Technical Museum" is situated. There is no mention of such an institution in any of the Directories and it seems strange that no one should be able to answer our enquiries as to the locality of this exhibition, although, as stated above, no less than 82,000 Chinese visited it last year! We fear that the informant of the Manufacturer must be some clairvoyant of exceptional power, who, on reading a comparatively recent issue of this journal in which such a museum was suggested, immediately saw the whole scheme carried out and completed even to the counting of the number of visitors.

Had the Manufacturer called attention to the manner in which Hongkong is exhibiting to the Chinese the futility and uselessness of Western methods by the gross ignorance, incapability and wastefulness displayed by the Sanitary Authorities and by the Engineer in charge of the Praya Reclamation works we should not have been surprised in the least, and it really appears as though some cynical wag had contributed the paragraph in question to our American contemporary in order to have a 'dig' at the Colony. At all events we can offer no better explanation of the "startler" than this.

Of the utility of a Technical Museum in Hongkong there can be no doubt, and were such an institution established we believe that good might result therefrom were the better class of Chinese induced to take an interest in the models and other objects exhibited. Such a museum, however, would, we fear, be too much to hope for in the present state of public opinion in the Colony as exhibited by the utter lack of interest shown in the Museum in the City Hall. When the public will allow a collection to remain badly labeled, badly displayed and badly cared for there can be little hope of their troubling themselves about the formation of a far superior and more useful institution. "You must walk before you run," says the old proverb, and so far, the interest in things scientific in Hongkong, except where they lend themselves to some popular amusement, may be said to have barely reached even the crawling stage.

In all pertaining to sport and amusement Hongkong can hold her own with other British possessions, but in the matter of literary and scientific societies and means of self improvement generally she is far behind the times. In all the Australian Colonies not only are useful and well managed museums to be found but debating, literary and scientific societies exist, and those who wish for some further insight into scientific and philosophical subjects have the opportunity of attending lectures delivered by first-class scholars. Nothing of the kind exists in Hongkong. True, the Odd Volumes Society is supposed to be a semi-scientific institution, but it drags along slowly and the lectures given under its auspices seldom draw an attendance of over fifty. Money and sport appear to be the sole aim of the great majority of Hongkongites, and while such is the case we can never hope for museums or flourishing training institutions, either technical or otherwise.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

THE EASTERN CRISIS.

TURKEY AND THE POWERS.
LONDON, May 20th.
The Porte is willing to negotiate regarding the demands for the cessation of the war and indemnity, but insists absolutely on the abolition of all terms of capitulations from the negotiations.

THE FIGHTING AT DOMOKOS.

The Greeks defended Domokos with splendid valor and the Turkish front attack was repulsed with great slaughter. After many hours' fighting, the Greeks, upon being outflanked, retreated at night.

PEACE PROSPECTS.

It is believed in Constantinople that a definitive treaty will be made, and that the peace submitted for a conference will be Paris.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

"MONDAY, the 24th May, being a public holiday, all the Banks, Insurance and Government Offices will be closed and there will be no regular issue of the Hongkong Telegraph, but an "Extra" will be published on Monday morning containing the latest telegraphic intelligence and shipping returns.

THE \$ is down to 12 1/2d.

THE buying rate for sovereigns is 99 1/2 p. 1/2.

THERE is quite a "boom" in Oivers mine shares.

GREEN Islands have been done at 4 1/2 for 31st July.

EUROPE'S Easter Egg was a declaration of war by Turkey.

THE Portuguese gunboat Bengo arrived this morning from Macao.

RAJAH Brooke arrived at Singapore on the 15th instant in the yacht Zohara.

EDMUNDSON is to be provided with new military headquarters offices at a cost of £15,000.

MAJOR-GENERAL F. T. HOBSON succeeds Major-General Justice in command of the troops in Ceylon.

THE annual general meeting of the V.R.C. will be held in the Club's gymnasium at 5.15 p.m. on the 28th instant.

ARCHDEACON WOLFE will deliver an address on "Mission work in Foochow" at St. Stephen's Church to-morrow at 11 a.m.

HUDSON'S SURPRISE Party left yesterday by the Omi Hara for Australia, after doing record business in Hongkong and Shanghai.

DR. YERGIN, writing from Bombay on 4th April, reports 70 per cent. of cases with his serum and says he will probably return to China at an early date.

MR. ERICH GEORGE reports that "it is generally understood that it will not be necessary to reconstruct the Praya Company, or to call for fresh capital."

COLONEL C. M. STOCKLEY, C.B., in command of a Regimental District, and formerly of the Bengal Infantry, has permission to retire on an Indian Pension.

THE "roller-ship" Ernest Basin went down to Havre on the 11th inst., and entered the Euro basin. Everything (says Fairplay) is said to have worked satisfactorily.

COLONEL A. CHAPLIN, Madras General List of Infantry, Deputy Judge Advocate General, Madras, received permission to retire from the Service on the 20th May.

MR. BRISY, in his latest Rand mining report, says that the yield per ton from the last crushing must not be considered exceptional. A great quantity of ore that he has in reserve is of a similar quality.

THE Hongkong Volunteer Corps give a concert at their headquarters on the 5th prox. The shooting prizes will be presented at the same time and the West Yorks-band will play "The British Army Quadrilles."

Fairplay hears that the Austrian-Lloyd Co. will only pay a dividend of 10 florins for the past working year, against 21 florins for 1895. The falling off is attributed to the plague in India and events in Eastern Europe.

An elderly Chinaman was to-day fined \$5 for having in his possession a murderous looking sword bayonet. The weapon was found in his back in a common lodging house on Praya West. The man pleaded ignorance, saying that he was a stranger here.

THE Fairfield Shipbuilding Company launched on 18th April the torpedo-boat destroyer Orphey, which they have built for the British Government. The Orphey is the second of three similar vessels building at Fairfield. They are expected to attain a speed of 30 knots per hour.

"MADAME SANS-GENE" Mr. Comyns Carr's adaptation of Sardou and Moreau's celebrated play, was produced at the Lyceum Theatre on 10th April and received with enthusiasm by a large and distinguished audience. Miss Terry in the title-role and Sir Henry Irving as Napoleon I were very successful.

THE Band of the West York Regiment will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess, Murray Barracks, to-morrow, commencing at 8 o'clock:—

Grand March "Don Carlos" Verdi.
Serenade "Bridal Chorus" Wagner.
Song "The Rose Tree" Schumann.
Fantasia "Sous le Palmier" W. G. Bentley.

IN connection with the Queen's Birthday parade, it is understood that it will be more in the nature of a preliminary to the Diamond Jubilee review and the early hour for holding it was chosen because the Jubilee celebration follows it so closely. The Royal salute will be fired by the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

SENIOR BARBOSA, the newly appointed Chief Secretary to the Government of Macao, arrived here from Europe by the Calcutta last night and proceeded to the Holy City by the Hongkong to-day. No doubt a hearty welcome will be accorded the courteous and able Secretary by his many friends and admirers in Macao.

MR. WILLIAM OGILVIE, a Dominion Government surveyor, who spent the winter at Fort Canby, the most northerly British post in Canada, has reported to his Government most wonderful discoveries of new and rich gold mines in the district. The report of the officer in question has caused a "rush" of miners to the goldfields.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Times writes that a captive balloon is being employed at Toulon for a singular purpose. Divers having failed to discover the torpedo which caused the recent accident to the *Fauriquy*, the bed of the sea is being lighted up from a balloon attached to a tug, in the hope that the torpedo will be detected.

WE are glad to hear from Shanghai that Mr. Midwood, who met with such a serious accident while riding in the Shanghai spring race-meeting, is now much better and it is thought that a trip to the south coast will quite set him up again, rendering him fit to start to victory any aspirant for Championship honours at the autumn meeting.

ALTHOUGH the stately form of the popular French mail liner *Calcutta* this morning met the eye of our look-out man at daylight gradually superseded the darkness of the night, yet it was 8.55 a.m. before the delivery of the European mail commenced at the Post Office. It is only fair to the Acting Postmaster General to add that he managed to have the delivery in full swing before the hour stated on the board, which is an improvement on what we are accustomed to.

A CIRCULAR has come to hand containing Australian press notices of Miss Florence Seymour, the "leading lady" of the Brough Comedy Company, which is about to visit Hongkong. The critics unite in speaking in the highest praise of Miss Seymour's acting, particularly in such pieces as "A Woman of No Importance," "Jim, the Penman," "A Woman's Reason," "A Gaiety Girl" and "A White Elephant."

A few years ago Miss Seymour toured China, Japan and India with a strong opera company, but subsequently she forsake the lyric stage and has achieved great success in the drama.

IT is not often that an ordinary British Magistrate has to deal out justice to a full-blown Chinese Mandarin but it was a distinction that fell to the lot of Mr. Woodhouse to-day. Said Mandarin was a passenger per steamer *Fukien* from Shanghai, en route for Canton to take up a Magistracy. He had an escort of 40 soldiers with him but that did not prevent the usual search for opium being made. In between the blankets of his mandarinship's bed was found a lump of baked mud in the shape of an egg. On being opened a horn containing 5 taels of opium was found and amongst his baggage another 5 taels came to light. The crafty owner had to contribute \$100 to the revenue of the colony.

* To avoid disappointment and to insure early publication, we beg to remind our friends that all matter intended for immediate insertion in the *Telegraph* should reach this office before 3 p.m. Late we have had to hold over a good deal of matter that would have been published promptly had it been received before the whole of our news space was filled.

THE French flagship *Bayard* presented quite a picturesque appearance this morning, her big topsails and topgallants hanging loose in the benlines to dry. She also had her two spunkers and jib set, and were it not for her ram bow, one could have imagined her to be a ship of the period when oak and hemp had not been displaced by the iron and steam of the modern warship.

THE Hon. John Hay, the new United States Ambassador to Great Britain, reached England on 21st April. On arrival at Southampton his Excellency was welcomed by the Mayor, and presented with a photograph of the picture of the departure of the *Mayflower* for America nearly 300 years ago. In a brief reply, the Ambassador said he had come to work for the welfare of his country, and it was his profound conviction that that could best be served by promoting a cordial and friendly understanding between England and America.

THE result of Inspector Kemp's investigations regarding the fire yesterday morning at 231, Queen's Road Central, go to show that the circumstances are suspicious. The Inspector found that a partition in the bedroom had been bored in several places and heretofore soaked pieces of paper stuffed into the holes. The partition had also been smothered with kerosene about four feet above the ground. In addition the floor was covered with kerosene and a tin containing kerosene was found at the head of the stairs. The stock which was insured in the South British Insurance Company for \$4,300 is alleged to be worth only about \$1,000. The two occupants of the shop are detained at the Central Station.

THE New South Wales Mounted Rifemen, who landed in London from the steamer *Gulf of Marlaban* on the 23rd ult., met with a great reception. They are attached for the present to the 2nd and 3rd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys), stationed at Hounslow. At the docks they were met by Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. D. Ward, C.E., of Lord Melbourne's staff, and by Lieutenant-Colonel Baillie-Hamilton, of the Coldstream Guards. The detachment was conveyed by train to Hounslow, and from the local station to the barracks the streets were thronged with people, who displayed the greatest enthusiasm. The bands of the Scots Greys and the depot played both at the railway station and on the march to the barracks. At the barracks the whole regiment of Scots Greys turned out and heartily cheered the New South Wales detachment. The men of the regiment also insisted upon grooming the horses of the visitors. The London newspapers commend the physique and soldierly bearing of the men.

ALTHOUGH the Royal Niger Company has effectively disposed of its native enemies in North and South, the future of Nigeria is likely to occupy attention for some time to come. There is indeed talk of a German-French-English Commission to go into the question of boundaries. A French expedition remains in possession of Boussa, to which it is reasonably certain the Company has an indisputable claim, and France will give it up reluctantly, however conclusively it may be proved that it belongs to Britain. It is said that the French Government will insist on evidence that Boussa has been brought under the regular Colonial authority of Great Britain, before she agrees to surrender it. Her action is dictated by a policy which is well defined. She is anxious to lose no opportunity of preventing the expansion not only of British but of German authority in North-West Africa. With this object she is taking possession as rapidly as possible of the hinterland—of slices of territory, which she cannot for long years to come hope even to occupy. Whilst, of course, the Royal Niger Company would prefer that obstacles to expansion should not be placed in its path, it will assuredly insist on keeping what belongs to it. The *Times* does not hesitate to declare that its work in Africa recently has been worthy of comparison with British expansion in India, and a corporation which has rendered such service must be protected from aggression.

THE Greek residents of Sydney are making a great display of patriotism in connection with the trouble between their country and Turkey. According to the *Daily Telegraph* seven Greeks left for home by the G. M. S. *Gera* on the 26th ult. to render what little assistance lies in their power to their sorely distressed country, and whether they get to their destination in time to take up arms against the "unspasmodic Turk" or not, their patriotism deserves warm commendation. The whole of the Greek residents in Sydney have combined to send help to their fatherland in its dire extremity. Those who are not in a position to give up home and prospects and throw themselves into the fray are sending monetary assistance to their country, and helping to fit out for service those who can manage to get away. Mr. Nianicht, the Greek Consul, had arranged for a number of men to leave Sydney shortly and the party which left by the *Gera* was augmented at Melbourne by the addition of 20 or 30 more. They will probably travel by this boat as far as Port Said or Alexandria, and then tranship for Piræus, the seaport town of Athens. Most of the men from Sydney have passed through the ranks in the Greek Army. One man was a sergeant for four years. As an indication of the manner in which the movement has been taken up by residents, it may be mentioned that a widow, with an only son insisted upon sending him off to the war, despite the fact that he was her main support. She was considerably "cut up" when it came to bidding a long farewell, but would not hear of his remaining in Sydney while Greece stood in such sore need.

A NEW lead for deep sea sounding carries a cartridge which explodes on touching the bottom. A submerged microphone receives the sound, and the depth is estimated from the time occupied by the lead in sinking.

THE 18 coolies charged with having taken part in the recent fire at Kowloon, were brought up on remand at the Magistracy to-day. Mr. J. Hastings presided, and Mr. Looker appeared for the defence. After evidence was taken in the first three defendants were fined \$50, \$15 and \$15 respectively. The others were all bound over in sums of \$15 to be of good behaviour for six months. The sureties not being forthcoming all were committed to goal.

"DAYBREAK" writes in *Sport and Gossip*:—Twenty-two years in China was the sum total of Mr. Shewan's residence in the Far East, and in him the *Coptic* yesterday took from Shanghai one whose friends can only be counted in hundreds. In his departure, which we all hope will not be for long, a space is left vacant that cannot be filled, for wherever "Billy" was he was called "Billy" because his name is Arthur—there was always laughter. No matter where, whether at the Club, on the cricket field, at the races, or up-country, his ready wit made many and many an hour that would otherwise have been dull pass merrily.

THE latest production of the well-known publishing firm of Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons has just reached us in the shape of the first number of *Pitman's French Weekly*, an illustrated serio-comic journal for English readers. The motto of the journal is to help English students to a knowledge of French, and besides some excellent lessons and exercises it contains many amusing little stories and jokes in French with pronunciations and translations into English. The illustrations are quite up to date and some a good deal above the average. What with grammar, exercises, and conversations the little journal should prove a very valuable medium to those who wish to be able to "speak" French. It should also be mentioned that the publication under notice contains examination papers for the French Society of Arts and competitions for money prizes are also announced. We wish the new comer all the success it richly deserves.

We received this afternoon from Mr. W. Danby a circular giving full particulars of the Musical Jubilee in connection with the Diamond Jubilee. Pressure on our space precludes the publication of the circular in its entirety but we may state that the practices of the choir will be held as follows, at 5.30 p.m.:—Mr. C. Schwenke—at the German Club, on Mondays, May 31st and June 7th. Signor Cattaneo—at the Lullatone Club, on Tuesdays, June 1st and June 8th. Mr. A. G. Ward—at the City Hall, on Wednesdays, June 2nd and June 9th. Mr. G. Grimbale—at the Union Church, on Thursdays, June 3rd and June 10th. Combined practices of all the voices will be held in the Theatre, Royal at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, June 11th; Thursday, June 17th and Saturday, June 19th; and also a full rehearsal with the Bands, &c., in the Race Stand, on Monday, the 21st June, at 5.30 p.m. (sharp), under Mr. Bently, A.R.C.M.

It is said to be extremely unlikely that the Sikkim-Tibet boundary question will be reopened this summer, as the Chinese authorities show no desire whatever to proceed with the work of demarcation. As the Tibetans are not giving trouble, action on the part of the Government of India does not seem to be required.—*Bombay Gazette*.

WITH the worthy object of abating the pest of rats which was destroying the Victoria Island sugar cane some five and twenty years ago the mongoose was introduced from India. The plan succeeded and for a while all went well, but after the rats had gone the mongooses attacked the poultry, pigs, kids, camels and even calves. In fact nothing was safe from their depredations. Fish even disappeared while snakes and lizards became extinct. Finally the mongooses began to develop a taste for vegetable matter. With the diminution in the number of snakes, the insects began to increase until they were a pest for life was confined to the thick and the mangoes. Fortunately the tick arrived the victory and in the end nature reasserted itself. Such is a fair example, says a home paper, of an attempt to interfere with the process of natural selection.

"WARR" in the *Paris Figaro* writes:—"It would be folly on the part of the Powers to want to help Greece at the present moment. We are forced once more to recognize a truth which is as though it had been buried for ever, and it is that Germany still remains as she was twenty-five years ago, the mistress of Europe. Two Powers alone know where they are going, Germany, who created and pushed forward the Turkish army; and Great Britain, who takes advantage of the trouble in the East to establish herself definitely in Egypt. The writer goes on to hope that the other Powers may, although in different degrees, have better luck than they have had hitherto, and concludes as follows:—"Statesmen are far from finding themselves on a bed of roses even when they importunately flatter themselves that they will be able to confine hostilities to a duel between two Governments of unequal strength. In any case, it is a bad prelude for the ultimate discussion of the reforms to be imposed on Turkey."

THE Siam Company (Limited) has been registered with a capital of £500,000, in 1/4 shares. The objects are to construct, carry out, equip, improve, work, develop, administer, manage, or control railways, tramways, docks, harbours, piers, wharves, and other public works or conveniences in Siam or elsewhere; also canals, reservoirs, embankments, irrigation and reclamation works, sewage, drainage, sanitary, water, gas, electric light, telegraph and power supply works; to build, carry on, and maintain hotels, warehouses, markets, and other public buildings; and further, to purchase, take on lease, under-lease, grant, or license, or otherwise acquire under contract, concessions, or other agreements, land, mines, mineral properties, water rights, mill sites and rights, privileges and interests, including options in lands, mines, and mineral properties whatsoever, in California and elsewhere, and to do all necessary and expedient acts and things to acquire a legal title thereto; to carry on and conduct the business of raising, working, mining, and selling gold and other ores, precious stones, metals and minerals, and to acquire and to turn to account any patents, patent rights, and inventions, &c. The number of directors is to be not more than ten or less than three (the subscribers are to appoint the first). Qualification, £100. Remuneration, £200 each per annum and a share in the profits. Registered office: 111, Cannon-street, E.C.

There has lately been unearthed from one of the lumber-rooms of Windsor Castle a beautiful specimen of a sedan chair of Queen Henrietta Maria, which, it is thought, might fitly serve for the use of the Queen on the historic occasion of the ceremony at St. Paul's. A suggestion is being made, by the way, that a sedan chair would be a suitable present for the Pope to make to the Queen in connection with Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

On inquiry at the Admiralty regarding the reasons for the presence of a British Squadron of eight warships in Delagoa Bay, Reuters representative was informed that Rear-Admiral Rawson's ships were "merely carrying out the ordinary duties of the station." With respect to the future movements of the squadron, it was declared that, so far as they were left to the discretion of the Admiralty, it was impossible to say what the next destination of the war vessels might be.

The Chinese Minister in Berlin on the 22nd April telegraphed instructions for the removal, at the expense of his Government, of the remains of the Tatar General Theodor Schell from Wuchang, where he died in January, to Tientsin, to be buried there beside his first wife, as he had expressed a wish to that effect. Theodore Schell was an ex-German officer, who served China well during twenty-eight years, and particularly distinguished himself in the defence of Wei-hai-Wei. An eminent English naval authority said that if Schell's advice had been taken by the Chinese, the Japanese would not have captured that place.

A KRUOKER SKENADE.
[The High Court at Pretoria has found that the suppression of the Johannesburg Star was illegal. The paper is now reappearing.]

Twinkle, twinkle, little Star,
Though "suppressed," still here you are,
Licensed by the Court so High
Gagging orders to defy.

Now my power to squelch is gone,
Now I'm fairly set upon;
You, alas! can still throw light
On the wrongs I don't set right.

Then if Britons in the dark
Watch your inconvenient spark,
You may help to help to help
So confound you, little Star!

—The World.

H.M.S. *Torch*, the latest addition to the Australian squadron, arrived at Sydney on the 20th ult. On the Tuesday night preceding Good Friday, whilst the ship was in the vicinity of the Barrier Reef, it began to blow a stiff gale, and at 2.30 a.m. on Good Friday all hands were called on deck, as the vessel was drifting close to the reef. Fortunately, however, the danger was avoided. On the 23rd ult. the *Torch* was signalled by a ship in light trim, which asked for medical assistance, off Palm Island, and Surgeon Upham was dispatched to render aid. On the following day a shipwright, Robert Thompson, was washed overboard by a heavy sea, and though the lifeboat was lowered and every endeavour made to save him, he was without avail. He was not afterwards seen. The following are the officers on H.M.S. *Torch*:—Commander, Henry Freedy; first lieutenant, J. R. Le Hunt; second lieutenant, Williams; navigating lieutenant, Henry E. Heathcote; gunner, Johnson; surgeon, Charles Upham; staff paymaster, H. Dymall; engineer, Alfred E. Shaw, assistant paymaster, A. Weston.

The fourth annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mercantile Bank of India Ltd. was held at Winchester House, E.C., on the 21st April. Sir Alexander Wilson presiding. The general Balance Sheet and statement of Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st December, 1896, showed net profits for that period, after providing for bad and doubtful debts and including £8,047 3s. 11d. brought forward from last account, amount to £1,188 6s. 10d. Out of this sum there has already been paid £4,687 10s. 0d. being an interim dividend for the half-year ending 30th June at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the "A" shares of the Bank. The Directors recommended a dividend on the "A" shares at the same rate for the second half of the year and on the "B" shares of 1 per cent. for the year. This will amount to a further sum of £15,937 10s. and will leave a balance of £10,563 6s. 10d. to be carried forward. The Directors further stated that the liquidation of the Mercantile Bank of India Ltd. appeared in former statements to have progressed so satisfactorily that they have closed it and placed the surplus of £10,000 to a Reserve Fund. At the meeting the Chairman moved, Mr. F. W. Lucas seconded, and it was unanimously carried, "That the report of the directors, with the audited statement of accounts and balance-sheet to the 31st December last, presented to this meeting, be and the same are hereby received, approved, and adopted, and that a dividend on the 'A' shares of the bank at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the six months ending 31st December, 1896, and on the 'B' shares at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum for the year ending December 31st, 1896, as recommended in the report, be and the same is hereby declared." A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, officials, and staff was proposed by Dr. Blissett, seconded by Mr. Cogar, and unanimously accorded, and the proceedings then closed.

A. S. WATSON AND CO., LTD.

The 12th annual ordinary general meeting of the above company was held in the board room of the Dispensary, Queen's Road Central, at noon to-day. Mr. Hart Beck presided and there were also present Messrs. E. W. Terrey, J. S. Hagen, R. Mitchell, E. K. Chandler, and A. H. Mancini (Secretary).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, With your permission I will follow the usual custom and consider the report and statement of accounts as read. The general manager is at present in London but he has been notified of the proposed distribution of profits and has expressed his approval of the same and satisfaction with the balance sheet generally. As mentioned in the report, we have experienced a reduction of our profits in the Philippine Islands for the year under review. This, however, is not likely to recur in 1897 as our manager at Manila advises us that since February last the business in his charge has materially improved and the returns in some important departments are larger than he has been able to previously record. There is little further for me to add, but I think, gentlemen, that the continued payment of 10 per cent. dividend and the carrying forward to 1897 account of an amount of \$4,000 in excess of the amount carried forward to 1896 account, certainly proves your Company to be in a sound condition; and I am pleased to say its present position and prospects are most satisfactory. (Applause.) I shall be glad to answer any questions in reference to the report and statement of accounts now before you.

There being no questions, the Chairman moved the adoption of the report and statement of accounts. Mr. Mitchell seconded and the motion was carried unanimously. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Terrey, Mr. F. Mancini was re-elected auditor.

The Chairman announced that dividend warrants would be ready on Tuesday morning.

NEWS BY THE FRENCH MAIL.

LONDON, April 23rd.
The new Chinese Minister, Sir Lo Fei Lub, paid his first ministerial visit to the Foreign Office to-day.

Baron von Gutschmid, the German Minister in Japan, has reached England on his way home on leave.

The Manchester Corporation have set apart £10,000 for the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee.

The Ayr Kathia Siam Gold Concessions (Limited) has registered with a capital of £10,000 in 10 shares.

Yesterday the German Emperor attended the review of the Vienna garrison in company with the Emperor Francis Joseph.

Correspondent telegraphs that it is stated in well-informed circles there that the object of the Kaiser's visit is to effect a union between Austria and Russia, and thus to restore the alliance of the Three Emperors.

Her Majesty will hold a great reception of the nature of a Court on June 23rd at Buckingham Palace, at which the Royal and Princes' guests will be received, as well as the Colonial statesmen.

His Excellency Kang Tai-shan, the retiring Chinese Minister, intends leaving London on the 26th inst., and will embark at Southampton on the North German Lloyd steamer *Preussen* for China.

The marriage of Commander Wells, R.N., the chief officer of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, to Miss Ida Link of Mortgage-square, was celebrated on 20th inst. at the Church of the Annunciation, Bryanston-street.

The Imperial German Minister, resident at Siam, Herr Kempermann, has arrived at Berlin on the 20th inst., but will return to Bangkok in the middle of June. He will return to the Far East, it is hoped, fully recovered from the bad effect of the tropical climate in Siam.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint William John Archer, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul for the Consular District of Bangkok, and Walter Ralph Darle Beckett, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul for the Consular District of Chongking.

An engagement has been reported from Berlin of Prince Ernest Guenther of Schleswig-Holstein, a near relative of the German Emperor, with Princess Dorothea of Coburg, daughter of Prince Philip of Coburg and Princess Louise of Belgium.

The steamer *Charbon*, chartered by the French Minister of the Colonies, has arrived at Toulon, where she is embarking 2,000 tons of artillery and other stores destined for Cape St. James, which commands the entrance to the Saigon river.

According to estimates the Japanese balances at the Bank are probably still over rather than under £5,000,000, to which newly £1,000,000 falls to be added on 8th prox., and further shipments of the yellow metal to Japan are expected. The *Formosa* last week took £445,200 in bar gold for Kobe.

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A CHINESE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

The reign of Kang-hi, the second ruler of the T'ing dynasty, is famous as the longest recorded in Chinese history, and the completion of its sixtieth anniversary in 1721 was commemorated by a national fête on the highest scale of Imperial splendour. Doubtless the details of this event are duly recorded in Chinese archives, but it was not until they were in great part repeated on another, and scarcely less august, occasion thirty-one years afterwards that the Western world caught even a glimpse of their pomp and magnificence. In 1752, Kang-hi's grandson Kien-lung, then occupying the throne, the Emperor-mother completed her sixtieth year, and as it had been an ancient custom to celebrate such an anniversary with national rejoicings, it was resolved that the proceedings should be on a par with those carried out on the previous occasion. Of the actual fête there exist but the scantiest particulars, but the account of the preparations is full of curious and interesting matters.

Kien-lung was then journeying with his mother at his suburban "house of pleasure," about twelve miles from Peking, and the main feature of the occasion was to be the procession, of almost more than mortal state, in which both were to proceed to their private residence in the palace in the centre of the Tartar district of the city. The governing idea seems to have been that the Imperial gaze should encounter nothing which had ever been profaned by the eyes of the vulgar. Both palace and country-house were, of course, surrounded by their own extensive gardens, and it was determined to invest the entire route with the same characteristics. In short, the Imperial progress was to be made from end to end through a garden specially created for the purpose.

The last three months of 1751 were devoted to this work: a period more than long enough to permit of the most elaborate and concerned in it. All the painters, sculptors, architects, builders, carpenters, and gardeners of Peking and the neighbouring provinces were engaged in their several departments, with the one object of "charming the eyes and ears of the most voluptuous Court in the universe."

Modern eyes are sufficiently familiar with the fantastic features of Chinese landscape gardening. Our old friend the willow-pattern plate studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable." In its course appeared many solid buildings, pavilions, pavilions, colonnades, galleries, and amphitheatres, surrounded with costly trophies and banners. The most important of these were studied with and his mother would design to scenic and panoramic requirements. This system was applied to the whole line to be traversed by the procession, and the domestic and commercial frontages on the way were completely masked by "built up" scenery, much of which was made realistically "practicable

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GREEN TURTLE STEAKS for DINNER.

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Hongkong, 14th December, 1896.

[67]

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The Mitsui Cotton Spinning Mill, Limited.

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Hayashi Clock Factory.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1896.

[45]

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FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

The Company's Steamship

"TOKIO MARU,"

Capt. E. S. Barrow, will be despatched for

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This Steamer is fitted with Superior Accom-

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Passengers.

A daily qualified Doctor and a European

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For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 15th May, 1897. [815]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,

LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

The Company's Steamship

"HAIMUN,"

Capt. Bathurst, will be despatched for the

above Ports on TUESDAY, the 25th instant, at

Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LARAIR & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 21st May, 1897. [844]

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND

CALCUTTA.

The Steamship

"LIGHTNING,"

Capt. J. G. Spence, will be despatched for the

above Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 26th

instant, at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 19th May, 1897. [837]

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Steamship

"ALADDIN,"

Capt. Schmitt, will be despatched for the

above Ports on or about the 27th instant, instead

of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 20th May, 1897. [769]

"SHELL" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR MARSEILLES.

The Company's Steamship

"TURBO,"

Capt. J. Moses, will be despatched as above

on WEDNESDAY, the 2nd June.

For Freight, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 20th May, 1897. [840]



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"NAGATOMARU,"

Capt. M. Nishimura, will be despatched as

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This Steamer is specially fitted with Superior

Passenger Accommodation ensuring every com-

fort to passengers, and a good opportunity is

therefore offered to persons desiring of enjoying

a summer trip to the North Sea to break their journey

at any point en route, and connection may be

made at Korean or Japan ports with the other

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NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1897. [798]



NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

JAPAN-EUROPE LINE.

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FOR LONDON AND ANTWERP.

VIA SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, PORT SAID

AND MARSEILLES.

The Company's Steamship

"KANAGAWA MARU,"

Capt. J. MacKenzie, will be despatched as

above on WEDNESDAY, the 9th June, at

4 P.M.

This Steamer is fitted with Superior Accom-

modation for First-class and Second-class

Passengers and is lighted by Electricity throughout.

A daily qualified Doctor is carried.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 15th May, 1897. [816]

SAILING VESSEL.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

The 100 A. 1. British Ship

"FALLS OF DEE,"

Capt. (Master) Robert, expected, will leave here

for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1897. [244]

FOR NEW YORK.

The 100 A. 1. British Ship

"CLAN MACKENZIE,"

Capt. Elder, expected, will leave here for the above Port, and will have

quick despatch.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.,

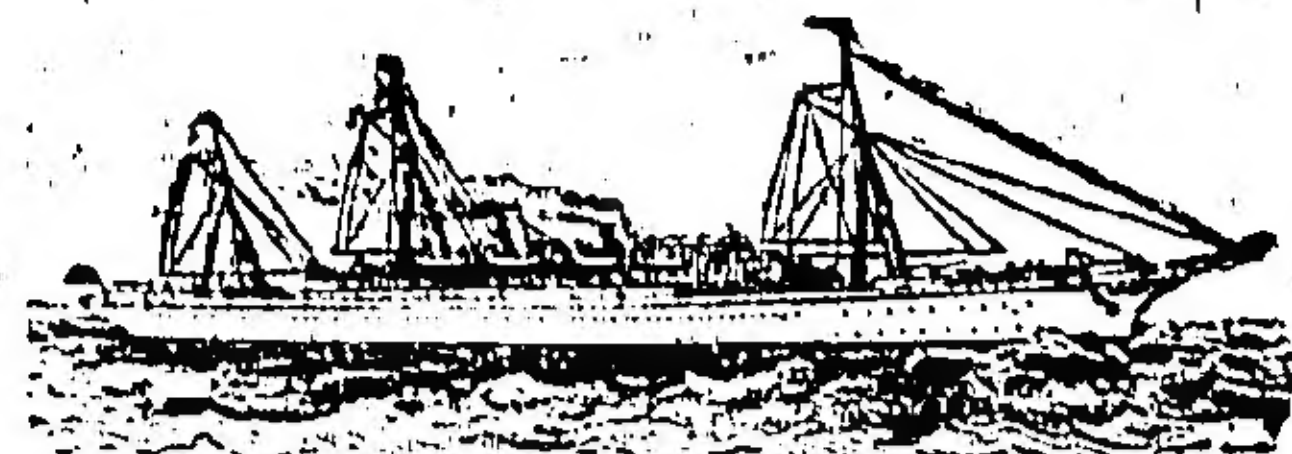
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Hongkong, 14th May, 1897. [748]

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EMPEROR OF CHINA...Comdr. R. Archibald, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 9th June.

EMPEROR OF INDIA...Comdr. O. P. Marshall, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 30th June.

EMPEROR OF JAPAN...Comdr. H. Pybus, R.N.R...WEDNESDAY, 21st July.

The magnificent Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF

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DAYS, making close connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL

TRAINS OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY which leave daily, and cross the Continent

FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is

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Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD. Return

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SPECIAL RATES (First-class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military,

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CIRCULAR PACIFIC TOUR TICKETS Hongkong to Vancouver, Vancouver to Sydney

Australia, via Honolulu, and Sydney to Hongkong via Brisbane and Torres Straits, good for

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The attractive features of this Company's route, embrace its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS,

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and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the

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THE DINING CARS AND MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by

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For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage, &c., apply to

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Hongkong, 19th May, 1897. [3]

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Saturday, 20th May, at Daylight.

Doric (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama).....

Thursday, 17th June, at Noon.

Doric (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Inland Sea and Yokohama).....

Tuesday, 6th July, at Noon.

The Company's Steamship

"GALLIC,"

will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via

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